

WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C.

ORDER NO. 3130

IN THE MATTER OF:

Served March 7, 1988

Application of PRIORITY ONE)
SERVICES, INC., for Special)
Authorization to Conduct Charter)
Operations Pursuant to Contract)
with National Institutes of Health)

Case No. CP-88-03

By application filed March 2, 1988, Priority One Services, Inc. ("applicant"), seeks authority to conduct charter operations pursuant to WMATC Special Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity No. 1 under contract with the United States Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health ("NIH"), transporting persons traveling on official government business as described therein, over irregular routes (1) between the NIH Clinical Center and the National Naval Medical Center Hospital, both in Bethesda, Md., on the one hand, and, on the other, various hotels and motels in the Wisconsin Avenue/Rockville Pike corridor, and (2) between the NIH Clinical Center, Bethesda, Md., on the one hand, and, on the other, points in that part of the Metropolitan District within 36 miles of Bethesda, Md. The initial contract period is April 1, 1988, through March 31, 1989. There are options to renew for four successive 12-month periods.

The hotel/motel shuttle involves continuous service from 7 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays, and requires two vehicles capable of seating eleven passengers each. The other service, estimated to average eight trips a week, involves excursions, scheduled in advance, for sightseeing, shopping, theater-going, etc. This service requires one vehicle capable of seating 14 passengers. On occasion, a second vehicle may be required. Applicant proposes to provide these services in a 1988 van seating 15, a 1987 van seating 15, and a 1985 van seating 8. It appears that the 8-passenger van does not satisfy the contract requirements as to seating capacity. In addition, the contract could require up to four vehicles. Applicant will be directed to supplement the record on these points. Applicant is also reminded that, in the event this application is granted, applicant will be required, prior to issuance of an authorization, to file an affidavit of identification of vehicles in accordance with Regulation No. 67, for which purpose WMATC No. 135, its current number, would be used. Applicant has on file an appropriate certificate of insurance that would cover any vehicle it operates.

Applicant submitted a statement by its president indicating he is familiar with the Compact and the Commission's rules and regulations, that applicant has not been found unfit by any regulatory agency, and that it is not under any fitness investigation.

Applicant's balance sheet as of January 31, 1988, shows current assets of \$20,618 plus fixed and other assets of \$34,646. Applicant lists current liabilities of \$20,508, long-term liabilities of \$20,766, and net equity of \$13,990. Applicant projects revenues of \$130,505 from the proposed service, with operating expenses of \$127,390, leaving net income of \$3,115 before taxes.

The contracting officer for NIH submitted an affidavit in support of the application stating that the persons to be transported (other than parents or guardians) are participants in a ongoing research program at NIH. The transportation proposed herein has been rendered in the past by James M. Smith, Inc., and DSR International, Inc. It is estimated that 17,550 persons will be transported by applicant during the initial contract period. NIH has investigated applicant's qualifications and has determined the firm is responsible and has the ability to perform the contract successfully.

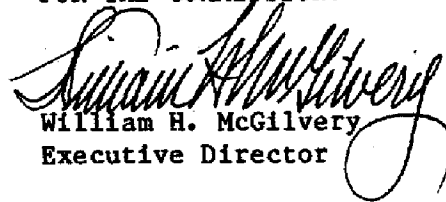
Inasmuch as a contract has been executed for the transportation of persons traveling on official government business pursuant to contract with a government agency between points within the Metropolitan District for a period in excess of 181 days, the application appears amenable to processing under Commission Regulation No. 70. See Order No. 2004, served June 20, 1979. Notice of this application must be published and opportunity given for the filing of protests. Protests, if any, must be written, sworn, and notarized, and must contain all evidence and argument upon which the protestant would rely.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:

1. That applicant publish once in a newspaper of general circulation in the Metropolitan District notice of this application in the form prescribed by the staff of the Commission no later than Monday, March 14, 1988.
2. That applicant shall file with the Commission no later than Thursday, March 24, 1988, an affidavit of such publication.
3. Than any person desiring to protest this application shall file a notarized protest in conformance with Commission Regulation No. 70-06 at the office of the Commission, Suite 316, 1625 I Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006, no later than Thursday, March 24, 1988, and shall simultaneously serve a copy of such protest on Priority One Services, Inc., 4942 Americana Drive, Annandale, Va. 22003.

4. That applicant shall file with the Commission, no later than Thursday, March 24, 1988, evidence of equipment adequate to satisfy the contract requirements, including (a) an equipment list specifying make, year, model, serial number, seating capacity, and license plate number and jurisdiction for each vehicle to be used in the proposed service and (b) evidence that the vehicles have been registered and licensed in one of the Compact signatory jurisdictions and have passed inspection by that jurisdiction.

FOR THE COMMISSION:


William H. McGilvery
Executive Director

